

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph which begins on page 2 at line 3 with the following amended paragraph:

A vertical mixer comprises a mixing chamber containing a substantially vertical rotatable auger having a generally helical flight that is tapered to converge from bottom to top. There are power means to rotate the auger about a longitudinal center axis. The mixing chamber has a floor and a side wall, the side wall having an opening therein that is sized and located to be closed by a door. There is at least one hinge located between the door and the side wall and an hydraulic cylinder is connected in parallel with a linkage to open and close the door. The linkage has two ~~elongated~~elongate members, the two ~~elongated~~elongate members being a first member and a second member. Each member has an inner end and an outer end, the two ~~elongated~~elongate members being pivotally connected to the mixing chamber at the outer end of the first member. The second member is pivotally connected to the door at the outer end of the second member. The hydraulic cylinder is pivotally connected between the first member and the second member.

Please replace the paragraph which begins on page 5 at line 4 with the following amended paragraph:

As can be seen in FIGS. 6, 7, 8 and 9, the hydraulic cylinder 12 is connected in parallel with a linkage 41 to open and close the door 10. The linkage 41 has a first ~~elongated~~elongate member 43 and a second ~~elongated~~elongate member 45 that are pivotally connected to one another at a pivot point 47. The second ~~elongated~~elongate member 45 can be one piece. However, as shown, the second ~~elongated~~elongate member 45 is made from a third ~~elongated~~elongate member 49 and a fourth ~~elongated~~elongate member 51. The third member 49 is fixedly secured to the fourth member 51 and the third and fourth members do not pivot relative to one another. Thus, the third and fourth members can be replaced with one member having the same shape as the third and fourth members. The first and second ~~elongated~~elongate members each have an inner end and an outer end. The inner ends are pivotally connected at the pivot point 47. The outer end of the first ~~elongated~~elongate member is connected to a retention bracket 53 (the bracket

53 being attached to the mixing chamber 8) at a pivot point 55. The outer end of the second ~~elongated~~elongate member 45 is pivotally connected to the door 10 at a pivot point 57. The hydraulic cylinder is pivotally connected between the first member 43 and the second member 45 in parallel to the linkage 41. An advantage of using the hydraulic cylinder in parallel with the linkage is that a much smaller hydraulic cylinder can be used to open and close the door than would be required if the cylinder was not connected in parallel with the linkage. The smaller cylinder can result in a significant cost saving. All of the reference numerals have not been inserted for all of the linkage components in FIG. 6 so as not to clutter the drawing.